

AAMSF 1,9,2

USEPA Region 10 CERCLA Emergency Removal at All-American Metal Finishing, Kent, Washington  
Misko, David (ECY)

to:

Diane Dettling

11/13/2009 03:07 PM

Cc:

"Sellick, Julie (ECY)"

Show Details

History: This message has been replied to and forwarded.  
Diane,

The purpose of this message is to document the Washington Department of Ecology's request to have USEPA Region 10 conduct a CERCLA Emergency Removal from All-American Metal Finishing in Kent, Washington. All-American is a zinc plater operated by Mr. Dave Amlin and located at 926 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue South in Kent – within one-thousand feet of the Green River. While Mr. Amlin has not actually declared bankruptcy as yet, he has indicated that he is nearly \$100,000 behind in rent to property owner Bill Brown; already has a lien on his plating equipment from his lender, Celtic Bank; and does not have the finances to properly manage more than 30,000 gallons of corrosive and/or toxic process waste at an estimated cost of \$150,000.

While a closed and debt-ridden plating operation does not normally constitute an emergency – and is not unique in the current business environment -- the location of All-American so near to the Green River and the absence of feasible alternatives makes this site the greatest single risk to causing widespread environmental contamination due to the increased probability of flooding in the Green River Valley. As you are well-aware, flood risks in the Green are significantly raised for the next five years as the US Army Corps of Engineers strengthens the soil embankments of its Howard Hanson Dam. All-American's location just south of downtown Kent places it in the center of an estimated \$6,000,000,000 of economic activity in the immediate surroundings.

Ecology is requesting this removal action as it does not possess the financial resources nor the authority to unilaterally prevent this threat. The State's Spill Response Program's ability to tap limited funding is restricted to actions involving petroleum products; not corrosive aqueous solutions or metal-bearing sludges. Ecology's Toxic Clean-up Program does not have the Model Toxics Control Act authority to act on anticipated or potential contamination; a problem must have already occurred (and funding is not available in the state budget even if a problem was to be identified). Ecology's Hazardous Waste and Toxics Reduction (RCRA) Program has provided technical assistance and a complete picture of risks and liabilities of the current situation to Mr. Amlin. However, no one in Ecology duplicates the unique combination of resources and authority that CERCLA Emergency Response has; therefore, this request.

If I can provide you with any further information, please let me know.

**David s. Misko**

Supervisor, Hazardous Waste Compliance  
Washington Department of Ecology  
Northwest Regional Office  
3190 160th Avenue S.E.  
Bellevue, WA 98008-5452

425.649-7014  
425.649-7018 (fax)

USEPA SF



1341244